

CLASSIFICATION

SECRET

SECURITY INFORMATION

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Propaganda.

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1. [redacted] told the EM that all deserters to the West were treated well by Western authorities, were fully exploited and then either shot or returned to Soviet authorities. [redacted]

Fraternization

2. By official order, all fraternization was prohibited. Actually, most officers ignored this order, and overlooked instances of fraternization by other officers and EM. When an EM fraternized he had to be exceptionally careful in selecting a place where no officers, Kommandatura patrols or the MGB would discover him.

Counter Intelligence Agencies

3. German Police did not take any action with regard to instances of fraternization. Most Party members fraternized, and would not report on friends they knew to be fraternizing. Although Kommandatura Patrols were supposed to apprehend all fraternizers the officer in charge of the Kommandatura Patrol would permit his friends to get away with a warning.

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Security

5. The 1st and 2d Mtz Rifle Bns of the 17th Gds Mecz Regt were detailed to guard the Ammunition depot of the 6th Gds Mecz Division and the area of the 17th Gds Mecz Regt. During the summer, when all other units of the 17th Gds Mecz Regt went to Templin for summer training, one of these two battalions would perform guard and security duties for the entire regiment in the garrison area.
6. Soviet soldiers were not supposed to leave or enter any military area unless in formation and under the command of an NCO or an officer. Instead they were supposed to remain in their barracks or in the immediate barrack area unless they were in training.

[redacted] While all compounds were fenced off there were many broken places in the fences and it was no problem to leave a compound area.

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Foreign Nationals

8. The 17th Gds Mecz Regt employed about eight German girls as waitresses until the fall of 1951, at which time they were replaced by Soviet girls. There were about five German men [redacted] who worked as firemen, plumbers and general repairmen. These men did not live in the compound. [redacted]

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Military Intelligence Section

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9. The 17th Gds Mecz Regt had a reconnaissance company [redacted] consisting of two or three officers and 30 EM. [redacted]

Photos

12. All troops could own cameras and [redacted] could photograph anything they desired. Officers had their films developed in town. EM, who could not officially go to town, either asked some officer to have their films developed, or had them developed in the PX (Voyentorg).

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Civilian Clothes

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15. Uniformed Soviet females assigned as typists and waitresses were permitted to wear civilian clothes when off duty.

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